

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1091

By Richardson

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to study the feasibility of transferring the Division of Mental Retardation.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order No. 30 issued on March 8, 2002, the functions, programs, and personnel of the Division of Mental Retardation were transferred from the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (now the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities pursuant to Chapter 947 of the Public Acts of 2000) to the Department of Finance and Administration; and

WHEREAS, in the intervening six years, many circumstances have changed, and it is possible that transferring the Division of Mental Retardation back to its original department would be in the interest of providing more economical and efficient service to the Division's clients and would facilitate the operation of the programs administered by the Division; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that there is hereby created a special joint committee to study the feasibility of transferring the Division of Mental Retardation from the Department of Finance and Administration to the Department of Mental Health and Development Disabilities, the department that originally held jurisdiction over the Division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House of Representatives and three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred Sixth General Assembly no later than February 1, 2009, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.